

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
119 PENNSYLVANIA STATE CONVENTION

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017

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1 STATE DEPUTY: Gentlemen, I'm about  
2 to open this session. Once again, please  
3 rise and welcome our State Chaplain for our  
4 prayer.

5 CHAPLAIN SHERDEL: Today we're  
6 thinking of things Connecticut, so I would  
7 like to prayer our prayer for the  
8 canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney.

9 In the name of the Father and of the  
10 Son and of the Holy Spirt. Amen. God, our  
11 Father, protector of the poor and defender  
12 of the widow and orphan, you called your  
13 priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an  
14 apostle of christian family life and to lead  
15 the generous service of their neighbor  
16 through the example of his life and virtue,  
17 may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more  
18 closely, fulfilling his commandment of  
19 charity and building up his Body, which is  
20 the church. Let the inspiration of your  
21 servant prompt to us greater confidence in  
22 Your love so that we may continue his work  
23 of caring for the needy and the outcast. We  
24 humbly ask that you glorify your venerable  
25 servant, Michael J. McGiveny, on earth,

1 according to the design of your Holy Will.  
2 Through his intercession, grant the favor I  
3 now present through Christ our Lord. Amen.

4 Our Father, who art in heaven,  
5 hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy  
6 will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
7 Give us this day, our daily bread; and  
8 forgive us our trespasses as we forgive  
9 those who trespass against us; and lead us  
10 not in temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
11 Amen.

12 Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord  
13 is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst  
14 women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,  
15 Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for  
16 us sinners, now and at the hour of our  
17 death. Amen.

18 Glory be to the Father, and to the  
19 Son, and to Holy Spirit, as it was in the  
20 beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
21 without end. Amen.

22 In the name of the Father and of the  
23 Son and the Holy Spirt. Amen.

24 STATE DEPUTY: Thank you, Father.  
25 Is Joseph Carramanno, in the room? Our next

1 report is from Joseph Carramanno, former  
2 state treasurer and for the COAL program.

3 JOSEPH CARRAMANNO: Worthy State  
4 Deputy, Reverend Fathers, state officers,  
5 supreme representatives, all my friends,  
6 vice supreme master and Brother Knights,  
7 First, I want to thank the State Deputy for  
8 allowing me the entire COAL committee to  
9 work this previous and run the program this  
10 previous year and for asking us to continue.

11 I am happy to report that the 2016  
12 COAL program ran smoothly and was a success.  
13 The past printing problems that we had did  
14 not recur this year. So we had from a  
15 working standpoint, we had an excellent  
16 season. We earned enough money to fund the  
17 ten scholarships and, hopefully, for the  
18 councils to make some profit for their  
19 treasury.

20 In total, the COAL committee worked  
21 400 plus hours between Thanksgiving and  
22 December 8th. And they did do an excellent  
23 job. Sure, the COAL committee did their job  
24 but more important, you guys who were the  
25 cog of the wheel and made the program a

1 success. And for that, I thank you very  
2 much. I appreciate what you did for us and  
3 we're very successful from that standpoint.

4 Let me get my little note here.  
5 This paper sticks together. I got to get  
6 better paper. The program goal was one to  
7 get the scholarships paid for and then of  
8 course, earn money for the councils. And  
9 that we did. And we hope that all of you  
10 who are here today take the time to sign up  
11 for the 2017 program. And if you want -- if  
12 you go up to room 2237, which is on the  
13 lobby level of the hotel, Dan Yuri and Rich  
14 McMillian are there to sign you up for COAL.  
15 And John Gordon is also there to give you  
16 some refreshments.

17 But we had bonuses for the past year  
18 equal 13,000 plus. Five thousand of that --  
19 five thousand and some odd dollars was for  
20 the sales bonus. That's the dollar per book  
21 over previous sales. So you can see, you  
22 know, that councils were improving their  
23 sales and working hard for us.

24 But you know, the we send out bonus  
25 checks in February, and ironically as of

1 April 30th, 21 checks have not been cashed  
2 yet. And if you want to see if any councils  
3 in your area have not cashed their checks,  
4 we have a couple posters upstairs and you  
5 can look to see if your council participated  
6 or cashed their check.

7 And it's crazy because one check I  
8 think is for \$137. And I can use the money,  
9 Christmas is coming. I'm going to start  
10 shopping.

11 We're going to handout the report,  
12 Frank. It's handed out already. Take a  
13 look at the report. It tells you -- it  
14 details the COAL program, how much money we  
15 made, how much was spent, the prizes. Take  
16 it back to your councils and share it with  
17 the membership. They should know what's  
18 going on.

19 We increases sales by 2832 books  
20 over the previous year. Now, worth noting  
21 that is the first time that sales have  
22 increased in six years. We were on a  
23 slippery slope. And last year, you know,  
24 I'm very happy to report that we turned it  
25 around. And I hope it continues. It needs

1 to continue. It needs to continue so that  
2 we keep up with the cost of the prizes of  
3 running the program.

4 And, hopefully, if it continues, we  
5 will be able to increase the value of the  
6 scholarship, which will cover increase  
7 college costs. So we went up by 2800 plus  
8 books. And that was one of the key things  
9 that caused that was that we got 20 new  
10 councils to participate. And I don't mean,  
11 you know, like brand new formed councils,  
12 but councils who haven't participated in  
13 six, seven, eight years or never  
14 participated.

15 And those 20 councils sold 1135  
16 books themselves. Doesn't sound like a  
17 whole lot, but it's the right direction.  
18 And the story I want to tell about the new  
19 councils, there was one council in the  
20 northeast and they told me the place is  
21 close to New York, they never participated  
22 in a COAL program.

23 Their district deputy talked to  
24 them, they agreed to take 100 books. We  
25 sent them the books on June 15th. June

1 30th, I received an e-mail from the grand  
2 knight, he said, send me 200 more books. I  
3 didn't know it was so easy to sell these  
4 books. And, you know, that to me is a  
5 success story. And I, you know, I did thank  
6 that district deputy. I thank him again. I  
7 thank the council.

8 And I need more help from district  
9 deputies and council members. And councils  
10 that tell their neighboring councils how  
11 good the program is and how successful and  
12 how much money they can make on the program.

13 I think if you can sell 250 books, I  
14 think -- or if you sell 50 books, I think  
15 you make \$250 if you take into consideration  
16 all the bonuses and everything.

17 So it's certainly worthwhile for it.  
18 And the councils who haven't participated in  
19 the past, give it a try. Just give it a  
20 try. It doesn't cost anything. We pay for  
21 the books. We ship them to you. We even  
22 send you a pen, so you can fill out the  
23 tickets. All you have to do is pay for the  
24 books that you sold. So it's a no-cost  
25 program to you.



1                   Cost free, so give it a try. I'm  
2                   throwing this pen on the floor. Just a  
3                   reminder to be eligible for the scholarship  
4                   program, and we certainly, you know, I talk  
5                   about selling the books and that's  
6                   important. And I want a lot of  
7                   participation. But really the most  
8                   important thing is to get scholarship money  
9                   for our children. And we don't want to  
10                  deprive the kids of our members from getting  
11                  an opportunity to participate in the  
12                  program.

13                  In order for them to apply for  
14                  scholarship, the council needs to sell at  
15                  least 50 books. You need to sell or buy 50  
16                  books. Some councils might sell 40 and buy  
17                  the other 10. But 50 is the magic number.  
18                  Don't forget the dollar sales bonus for  
19                  every book you sell over last year, it's  
20                  another dollar in your pocket.

21                  If you haven't sold books in the  
22                  previous year, the magic number is 50.  
23                  Everything over 50 is worth an extra dollar  
24                  to you.

25                  Those councils who have signed up

1 for COAL will be eligible for one of two  
2 door prizes. We will pull the tickets  
3 either tonight or tomorrow morning,  
4 depending on what time is allowed. The  
5 council, the door prize will be a \$50 check  
6 to the council whose name is pulled from the  
7 package.

8 And with all that, don't forget the  
9 report. Take a look at it. And help us  
10 help your council. We're helping your  
11 council make money. We want your help to  
12 get the councils to participate and your  
13 members to participate.

14 And from the bottom of my heart, I  
15 sincerely thank you. I thank the councils,  
16 the membership, the district deputies and  
17 the state chairman for all the help that  
18 I've received over the last few years.

19 And I sincerely mean, thank you.  
20 Vivat Jesus. Have a great convention.

21 STATE DEPUTY: Thank you, Brother  
22 Joe. Thank you, Joe.

23 Next is the finance committee  
24 report, James McCarthy, former state  
25 treasurer.

1 JAMES MCCARTHY: Worthy State  
2 Deputy, Worthy State Chaplain, Worthy State  
3 Representatives, State Officers and my  
4 Brothers all, my name is Jim McCarthy from  
5 9980, St. Jude in Shelfont, PA. I'm the  
6 finance board chairman. The finance board  
7 is appointed by the state deputy during his  
8 term each year, consists of the state  
9 deputy, immediate past state deputy, the  
10 state treasurer, the state auditor and five  
11 past state deputies, one from each of the  
12 five geographic regions of the state.

13 We are an oversight committee.  
14 We're also assisting in the preparation of  
15 budget. And I had to get the 990 prepared  
16 and the audits done of each the fundraisers  
17 and the state council. And either before or  
18 after we audit them, they go to an outside  
19 auditor, which supreme requires. So the  
20 books are audited twice.

21 And I'm pleased to report at that  
22 time there's been no problems in the last  
23 six or seven years that I can tell of.  
24 Let's see. Budget, also I also receive  
25 quarterly reports from each of these

1 fundraisers to keep track, so they have a  
2 schedule.

3 And then they have to send us their  
4 final report before this convention and  
5 that's the report you're receiving today are  
6 their annual reports for COAL and SWEEPS and  
7 ARC and the like and Special Olympics.

8 I also said we are responsible for  
9 the oversight function of the committee to  
10 make sure that the state deputy and I have a  
11 procedures manual of everyone's job  
12 description. And we have to make  
13 periodically that those job descriptions are  
14 updated and followed so nobody veers off the  
15 path and each person knows what their duties  
16 and responsibilities are before and after  
17 taking office or being the chairman or  
18 director.

19 Everyone of these name plates has a  
20 job description in the binder and that  
21 includes any forms they had to fill out or  
22 keep up to date. We also do the audits and  
23 the 990's. So in light of that, we also  
24 meet -- we met yesterday, several hours. We  
25 are met this morning again before the

1 convention began today's session. And we do  
2 meet at both of the district deputy  
3 seminars.

4 So we put in a lot of time. And it  
5 really does help keep things flowing and  
6 avoid any big oops at the end. I'm pleased  
7 to present the results of our last audit.  
8 Felix and Glockler, Erie, Pennsylvania, to  
9 the officers of Pennsylvania State Council  
10 Knights of Columbus, we've audit the  
11 financial statements of the Pennsylvania  
12 State Council for the Knights of Columbus  
13 for the year end of June 30, 2016, and  
14 issued our report. Professional standards  
15 require we provide you information about our  
16 responsibilities and a generally accepted  
17 accounting standards and information related  
18 to the plan scope and timing.

19 The significant audit findings,  
20 management is responsible for the selection  
21 and use of appropriate accounting policies.  
22 The policies used by Pennsylvania State  
23 Council Knights of Columbus are described in  
24 note one, no new accounting policies were  
25 adopted. And the application of existing

1 policies was not changed. We noted no  
2 transactions entered into by the  
3 organization during the year for which is  
4 there a lack of authoritative guidance or  
5 consensus.

6 All significant transactions have  
7 been recognized in the financial statements  
8 in the proper period. We have encountered  
9 no difficulties in dealing with management.  
10 Professional standards require us, the  
11 auditors, to accumulate all misstatements  
12 identified during the audit other than those  
13 that are clearly trivial and communicate to  
14 the appropriate level.

15 Management has corrected all such  
16 misstatements, of which there were none.  
17 For purposes of this letter, a disagreement  
18 with management is a financial accounting,  
19 reporting or auditing matter whether or not  
20 resolved to our satisfaction that can be  
21 significant to the financial statements of  
22 the auditors report.

23 We are, Felix and Glockler, pleased  
24 today report that no such disagreements  
25 arose during the course of this audit. And

1           they have requested certain representation  
2           from management and all representations were  
3           included. And let's see. That's it for  
4           that.

5                         So then also we have, I said the  
6           supreme council, State Deputy, Charles  
7           Vagnarelli, from supreme secretary, Michael  
8           J. O'Connor, we are in receipt of the  
9           Pennsylvania state council audited financial  
10          statements for the year ended June 30th,  
11          2016. The State Council is in compliance.  
12          And this information will be made part of  
13          the records of the supreme secretary's  
14          office. Thank you for your cooperation in  
15          this regard.

16                        So we passed. We got the 990 done.  
17          We also have to do a BC010 for Pennsylvania  
18          for the education foundation because it is a  
19          501(c)3 tax exempt organization. And it  
20          must file an additional form besides it's  
21          Pennsylvania and 990, has to file a Bureau  
22          of Charitable Organizations BC010. That was  
23          also completed for the foundation.

24                        That concludes my report, gentleman.  
25          Any questions? Thank you.

1 STATE DEPUTY: Thank you, Brother  
2 Jim. Is there anyone here from the golf  
3 committee?

4 Next on the agenda is the Label  
5 program report from Michael Conroy.

6 MICHAEL CONROY: Worthy State  
7 Deputy, Worthy Supreme Representative, all  
8 the other worthies, welcome. State labels  
9 program is on par with previous years. I  
10 have good news and bad news to report.

11 The bad news is we are running  
12 slightly behind the number of returns. The  
13 good news is we have a little more money in  
14 the bank than we had in previous year. So  
15 things are looking up. The labels program  
16 supports Pennsylvania Special Olympics.  
17 Twenty percent of our net goes to them.  
18 Another 20 percent to our ten diocese for  
19 vocation support. And the balance goes to  
20 you councils who attend and who qualify.

21 So it's a great program. I  
22 encourage you to talk with your members,  
23 talk to your districts. Let them know what  
24 we do and how this benefits our state. It  
25 is crucial that we get the word out. Use



1           your labels. There's nothing more  
2           distinctive than our logo, our emblem. And  
3           you can spot it right away.

4                       We do have continued problems with  
5           notices from families who's members or who's  
6           husbands have died. So of these have just  
7           died since the beginning of the year and  
8           that is when the list is generated to send  
9           out the labels. But I got one report, 11  
10          years her husband has been gone. It's a  
11          breakdown in councils.

12                      Ask your members, have you seen Joe  
13          Smith lately? If you haven't seen somebody,  
14          look over your roster and find out where  
15          these people are. They could be dead. What  
16          a statement. He may still be paying per  
17          capita for those folks. So it's very  
18          important to look at that.

19                      My thanks to all who have so  
20          generously supported and contributed to this  
21          program. It's a great program. In the  
22          event that there is an error on your labels,  
23          it's a process and we do make mistakes. Let  
24          me know and I will make a the correction.

25                      More importantly, when you bring

1           somebody to a first degree, admission  
2           degree, let me know and I'll send them  
3           labels because it's a great welcome to our  
4           order. So please continue to promote the  
5           order. I thank you. Vivat Jesus.

6                     STATE DEPUTY: Thank you, Brother  
7           Mike.

8                     Next would be the pro-life from Dr.  
9           Joseph Deday. But I don't think Doc made it  
10          back his mother-in-law is being buried  
11          today. So I don't think Joseph will be back  
12          right now.

13                    Next on the program is our  
14          sweepstakes committee report by Andy Smith.

15                    ANDY SMITH: Worthy State Deputy,  
16          Worthy Brother Knights all, thank you to all  
17          the councils that participate in the  
18          football sweepstakes program. The good  
19          thing about this program is most of the  
20          money goes back to you guys. This is for  
21          the councils. This helps support your  
22          supporting seminarians, your ultrasound  
23          machines, all the different charities and  
24          great works that you guys do. This program  
25          is for you.

1                   This year we had -- this past year  
2 we had 347 councils participate in the  
3 program. We sold 31,475 tickets. That's  
4 down about a thousand from last year, but  
5 that really isn't that much. It didn't  
6 affect any of the bonuses or anything like.

7                   The total profit to the councils was  
8 \$175,000. So had a money has been used for  
9 a lot of good things, I'm sure. That's what  
10 makes me want to do this program every year  
11 knowing that that money is going to help so  
12 many people.

13                   On top of the 175,000, we have  
14 provided \$20,000 to the state council to  
15 help with there convention. We also  
16 provided \$15,000 to the sections so they can  
17 help do also good work. So thank you again  
18 for last year.

19                   Now going onto this year. There are  
20 a couple of changes, nothing major. Our  
21 contract with our promotor, they actually  
22 lowered the contract again this year. It  
23 was 10,000 the year before, 10,000 last year  
24 and they dropped it another 4,000 for us  
25 this year. So we'll have an extra \$4000

1 right off the bat.

2 They also made a little change to  
3 the top part of the deal. Every ticket over  
4 30,000 we sell, we only pay them 50 cents a  
5 ticket. We were paying them a dollar a  
6 ticket prior. So if every council that  
7 participated sold five extra tickets, it  
8 would generate another \$16,000 for this  
9 program.

10 So just a small amount of increase  
11 will help a lot. So I'm really hoping that  
12 this drop in the upper end will help the  
13 councils to sell so more tickets this year.  
14 I'll be receiving the tickets on June 9th.  
15 They've already been ordered. And they will  
16 be passed out at the July district deputy  
17 seminar as usual.

18 So if you don't get your tickets by  
19 the end of July or early August, please  
20 contact your district deputy. If anyone has  
21 an event or anything that they need them  
22 after June 9th, please send me an e-mail. I  
23 can mail you your tickets a little bit early  
24 if you need it.

25 So thank you very much for

1 everything. And Vivat Jesus.

2 STATE DEPUTY: Vivat Jesus. Thank  
3 you, Andy. Up next is our ceremonial  
4 chairman, past state deputy, Ron Cabbage.

5 RON CUBBAGE: Thank you, Worthy  
6 State Deputy. Revered Father, Brother  
7 Supreme advocate and Brothers all. I had an  
8 experience at church a couple weeks ago  
9 where this young couple sitting behind me  
10 had a two-year old and they were doing  
11 everything that they could to keep them from  
12 acting up. He continued to act up. And  
13 right in the middle of the gospel, the  
14 father, a young father, he just got so  
15 ticked off, he grabbed the kid under his arm  
16 like this and he's racing to the back of the  
17 church. He gets about half way there and  
18 the kid yelled out, pray for me, pray for  
19 me. That's exactly what happened in the  
20 church.

21 Well, ceremonials, stuff that's dear  
22 to my heart. First, I want to start out by  
23 saying the golden rule. Does anybody know  
24 what the golden rule is when it comes to  
25 ceremonials? No, because I just make this

1 up so don't worry about it. The chain of  
2 command, the chain of command goes like  
3 this; grand knight, district deputy; state  
4 ceremonials chairman, state deputy; supreme  
5 council.

6 Now you say well, I reached supreme  
7 council. You better not because none of  
8 them guys in front of him are doing their  
9 job. So if we can't get you the answer, we  
10 should -- everybody in this State, we should  
11 be able to get you the answer. I get calls  
12 from New Haven telling me, can you take care  
13 of this? Can you take care of that?

14 And it's only because I don't -- I  
15 think it's a communication breakdown people  
16 are just not told how to go about getting  
17 this information.

18 Now the admissions degree, I want to  
19 talk a little bit about recruiting. Each  
20 person in here is a recruit. Have you to  
21 ask every eligible Catholic man to be a  
22 member of the Order. That means one member  
23 per council per month. After recruiting a  
24 new candidate, present him to the  
25 admission's committee. Make sure you tell

1 the candidate what the dress code is. Have  
2 him come with a suit and tie or a business  
3 casual, no shorts, tank tops or sneakers.

4 I know we want to get the men in the  
5 Order, but we want to make sure it's  
6 presentable. Accompany him to the  
7 exemplification admissions degree. And  
8 after the degree, introduce him to the  
9 council members. Make him feel welcome and  
10 part of the team.

11 Continue to advance him through the  
12 formation degree, the knighthood degree and  
13 the patriotic degree. And when you schedule  
14 a degree, each council should schedule a  
15 degree, one degree per council, per month.  
16 And no excuses. That's what you should do,  
17 one degree per council, per month.

18 Now scheduling will be in advance.  
19 Make sure that you invite the agency  
20 department, your legal state officers,  
21 directors, chairman, district deputies,  
22 neighboring district deputies and  
23 neighboring council officers. After  
24 scheduling the degree do not cancel even if  
25 you have no candidates. Do not cancel the

1 degree. This is a good time for your team  
2 to practice their skills, their presentation  
3 skills.

4 Remember, first impressions are the  
5 last thing. And this a first time that a  
6 candidate, new member, gets to see the  
7 Knights in action. Now, the degree of the  
8 admissions degree, there's three ways you  
9 can do the admissions degree. Minimum class  
10 size, one. That's the minimum class size  
11 one. So if you have one, candidate you're  
12 suppose to provide a degree for that member.

13 Now, you have to be a little bit  
14 sensible, you don't want to take the degree  
15 by himself. So you have some council  
16 members sit with him during the degree so he  
17 doesn't feel lonely. And it makes for  
18 better on his part and for a better  
19 presentation.

20 Now, there's three ways to conduct  
21 the first degree. The preferred way is to  
22 memorize the degree and have a team do it  
23 from memory wearing robes or a black suit  
24 dark suit with a ceremonial sash. That's  
25 the preferred way to do it. The second way



1 is to read the ceremonials with the same  
2 dress code. Now, the reading of the  
3 ceremonials is so that you get acclimated so  
4 that you can do the degree from memory. You  
5 don't want to continuously read the degree  
6 and get lazy. I'm not going to memorize it.  
7 No, that's not the intent.

8 So you continually do it until  
9 you're ready to be certified. And the third  
10 way is to use the video, the same way with  
11 the officers to be prepared to have the suit  
12 and be able to practice that with the video  
13 so at the proper time you can present the  
14 rosary and you can step in at the proper  
15 time to give them the charge.

16 And it's also nice to use that video  
17 even if you have a team that's memorizing  
18 the degree and just play the end of that  
19 video because it's a nice message there from  
20 our supreme knight. What a great way to  
21 greet the candidates.

22 Now, after the degree, you got to  
23 make sure that the form 100 gets up to New  
24 Haven and also the form 450. Now to get  
25 certified, the grand knight requests

1 admission books from New Haven, book form  
2 number 532. And the books will go to the  
3 financial secretary who will be the  
4 custodian of the degree books for the  
5 council. And when you are ready as a  
6 certified team, the district deputies will  
7 certify the first degree team and submit  
8 form 543.

9 Now formation degree, this new  
10 formation degree, how many people here have  
11 seen the new formation degree, just raise  
12 your hand? What a great degree. If you  
13 haven't seen it, you should go and see this  
14 degree. The candidates are really, like,  
15 edified when they get that Caroline Cross.  
16 I mean it really makes an impression.

17 Again, remind them -- the candidate  
18 of the dress code. And again, continue to  
19 advance the candidate from his formation  
20 degree to his higher degrees. The same goes  
21 for scheduling for the first degree for the  
22 second degree -- or the formation degree  
23 rather as the admissions degree. One degree  
24 per district, per month.

25 You should be able to have one

1 district degree per month. That's just a  
2 guideline. And again, make sure you invite  
3 the dignitaries. The same as the first  
4 degree. A lot of this is repetition.

5 Now, the exemplification, there's  
6 only one way to exemplify this formation  
7 degree and that is through memorization.  
8 You have to memorize the degree. Now, when  
9 you do these memorizations, everybody gets  
10 upset. Well, it's not word for word. It  
11 doesn't have to be exactly be word for word.  
12 That's what you strive for, yes. You want  
13 100 percent, yes. But the whole idea in  
14 degree work is getting the lessons of the  
15 degree across to the candidates. You want  
16 to see how they react. Did I do a good job?  
17 Did they learn the lesson I was trying to  
18 teach them? That's the whole idea behind  
19 degree work.

20 Now in the second degree, I keep  
21 saying second degree. I'm so used to it. I  
22 got to get used to this formation degree.  
23 The formation degree, the state ceremonials  
24 chairman or its designee or the state deputy  
25 certify the team when the team is ready.

1 Now they said they have to be recertified  
2 then they changed their minds. If you have  
3 a formation degree team, you do not have to  
4 be recertified. You should be doing this  
5 new degree right now.

6 And if you have somebody that wants  
7 to be certified, all you have to do is let  
8 me know and I'll put the form through for  
9 them after I certify them. So you don't  
10 have to have a complete team to get  
11 certified. They're certified by  
12 individuals.

13 All this stuff I'm telling you is  
14 coming down pretty much new from New Haven  
15 in the last six months. So after the  
16 degree, again make sure you send up a form  
17 on it. Your financial secretary needs to  
18 send that form 100 up to get that date on  
19 record. I'm a financial secretary from my  
20 council. I had a guy's a fourth degree  
21 knight, they gave me first degree care for  
22 him. I went back and checked, they don't  
23 have his degree dates in there.

24 So I went back to my records, I  
25 found a degree date. He made his degrees in

1 1990. It was never entered into New Haven.  
2 So unless somebody tells you, they're not  
3 going to do to know what their degree is.  
4 But make sure you send up that form 100.  
5 And to get reimbursed for your crosses for  
6 your degree, you have to have a 450. You  
7 have to put that 450 through.

8 Now to get a certified individual,  
9 as I said, it's state a ceremonial chairman  
10 or DD and they will fill out form 533 and  
11 when the team is certified, they'll have to  
12 fill out a form 544. I do this. And I have  
13 to have make sure you get on record.

14 The knighthood degree, make sure  
15 again that you remind all the things I said  
16 on the admissions degree apply on the  
17 knighthood degree. And the procedure and --  
18 the request with the help of the district  
19 deputy in the area where the area  
20 coordinator should be sent me. And I prefer  
21 that be done by e-mail. And there's a form  
22 letter that I have that I sent out.

23 If you just fill that information  
24 in, before you say I don't have a team, I  
25 don't have a CO, I don't have a warden, can

1           you find me one? We'll do that. But in 99  
2           percent of the cases there's somebody in  
3           your area that does the degree work and the  
4           name is put in there by the area coordinator  
5           and the requesting district deputy.

6                     Again, same thing for scheduling,  
7           and the same thing for the exemplification  
8           as the previous degrees. And again, after  
9           the degree, make sure the form 100 goes up  
10          to supreme. I can't emphasize this enough.  
11          And the form 450. A 450 has to go up after  
12          every degree.

13                    And we do need COs and we do need  
14          PFC's. I recommend that anybody that wants  
15          to be a CO, that they study the PFC's part  
16          first, because the CO. as to know both  
17          parts. The team consists of the CO and his  
18          warden. They're the only two traveling. So  
19          you if you need a degree team, you got two  
20          guys, they go the degree as opposed to as a  
21          whole team as before.

22                    Because the councils are responsible  
23          for everything else and request an area as  
24          responsible for all the other officers. But  
25          if you want to be a CO, practice and get

1 certified as a PFC and then do the C0 part.  
2 I know our supreme advocate -- boy, did I  
3 just promote you. You're out of a job. Our  
4 state advocate is very active in degree work  
5 and he's PFC. And he does a fantastic job.  
6 And he'd studying the part for the C0.  
7 Unfortunately, I can't get him to commit  
8 until after we have our fourth degree  
9 because he's got two major parts in the  
10 fourth degree that he's studying.

11 So, Mike, I expect you to be done by  
12 September. So the are there any questions?  
13 All right. My e-mail, write this down,  
14 please. My e-mail address is R-0-N, all one  
15 word, R-0-N-C-U-B-B-A-G-E, Ron Cabbage back  
16 at hot mail dot com. Very easy to remember.  
17 Even I can remember that.

18 So if you have any questions at any  
19 time. You need any help at all, at any time  
20 with any degree work, don't hesitate to  
21 contact me. If I can't get the answer, I  
22 know the people that can give me the answer.  
23 I'll get it somehow. If I can't, I'll put  
24 you on to somebody that you can pester and  
25 you see if you can get it. But I should

1           be -- I have enough contacts at the supreme  
2           office that I know I can get the answer for  
3           you to satisfy.

4                         Now, like I said, these are  
5           guidelines, okay. You got to do what works  
6           for you and your region. When it comes to  
7           ceremonial work, have you to do what works  
8           for you. You can bend the rules but don't  
9           break them. You can shoot below the belt  
10          line but don't sink the ship. I'm not going  
11          to come out there and tell you that you're  
12          doing things wrong because it works for you  
13          and you're doing the recruiting and you're  
14          doing everything you're suppose to be doing,  
15          who am to tell you you're doing it the wrong  
16          way? I might even take it up and bring it  
17          to another area.

18                        So with that, I talked too much  
19          already. Have a safe trip home if I don't  
20          see you tomorrow or the next day. Vivat  
21          Jesus.

22                        STATE DEPUTY: Thank you, worthy  
23          past state deputy, Ron.

24                        Next item on the business is the  
25          report of the agency department. Please



1           greet our general agent, James Kearney.

2                   JAMES KEARNEY; all right. Is that  
3           good? Thank you, Worthy State Deputy.  
4           Brothers, it is a pleasure to stand up here  
5           today and give you the insurance address.  
6           I'd like to recognize our most Reverend  
7           Fathers that are here, our Worthy Supreme  
8           Advocate, our State Officers, Council  
9           Officers and Brother Knights all.

10                   It's been a while since I had the  
11           privilege to get you this address even  
12           though the northeast is my area, it hasn't  
13           been here for a while and I'm happy it's  
14           here now because it's geographically close  
15           and I get the honor to present the agency  
16           department program.

17                   First I'd like to introduce my peers  
18           that are here today. First, general agent  
19           Art Redear from out in central PA and  
20           northwestern Pennsylvania. Second, Ken  
21           Scott from out by Pittsburgh. Next, Joe  
22           Grawski from down in the Philadelphia area.  
23           Then we have two new again agents in their  
24           state, Steve Houtack, who came from Florida  
25           and Sean Fitzsimmons, who goes by Fitz.

1 He's down in southeastern Pennsylvania and  
2 then myself of course, from the northeast up  
3 here. And then we have Tom Burkhart from  
4 down in the little silver from down below  
5 Pittsburgh and he has all of West Virginia.  
6 He's not able to attend because their same  
7 state convention is today.

8 And any other agents that are here  
9 please stand to be recognized. And there's  
10 our agents in the back there that are around  
11 here. So gentleman (applause ). Is Jim  
12 Bower in the house at the moment, please?  
13 No. All right.

14 At the banquet this evening, you  
15 probably notice we have that television out  
16 front and we're going to chance that off at  
17 the banquet tonight. We want to chance that  
18 off when everybody's here so, obviously, you  
19 can see who won it. Okay.

20 So and last but not least, you  
21 didn't hear me call the name Jack Mitchell.  
22 Maybe many of you guys know him. Maybe some  
23 of you don't, but Jack is a good friend of  
24 mine for a long time. A good peer for a  
25 long time. And good general agent for many

1 years with the Knights of Columbus. And he  
2 has ridden off into the sunset and retired  
3 as of April 1st of this year. So Jack,  
4 please up and get recognized (applause).

5 Brothers, 2016 was an outstanding  
6 year for the Knights of Columbus in the  
7 State of Pennsylvania. And also an  
8 outstanding year for the Order worldwide.  
9 This past year marked our 16th executive  
10 year of growth. For 16 executive years  
11 dispute economic turmoil and uncertainty,  
12 the Knights of Columbus has issued a record  
13 volume of insurance. Our 8.5 billion  
14 dollars of insurance issued in 2016 pushed  
15 us over \$105 billion dollars worth of life  
16 insurance at the end of the last year.

17 This represents a 77 percent growth  
18 in the overall business since 2006. In the  
19 past ten years, the assets of the Order and  
20 the insurance in force, have nearly doubled.  
21 While total life premium income has  
22 increased more than 34 percent. And the  
23 premium is what pays the bills and drives  
24 the engine of the Knights of Columbus.  
25 These are impressive achievements, there's

1 no question about it.

2 But how did we get there? There are  
3 many reasons. Among them is the fact we got  
4 there because our members understand. Just  
5 as Father McGivney did more than 135 years  
6 ago, the Catholic families need to be  
7 protected from financial disaster. Put  
8 simply, we got there because our members  
9 trust us.

10 Why do they trust us? I think three  
11 reasons, our size, our stability and our  
12 standards. When it comes to size, you all  
13 know that we are one of the largest Catholic  
14 organizations in the world and one of the  
15 largest Catholic charities as well. But  
16 what you may not know is that the Knights of  
17 Columbus is one of the largest life insurers  
18 in North America.

19 We now have over 105 billion dollars  
20 of life insurance in force along with more  
21 than 23 billion dollars in assets.

22 The Knights of Columbus ranks number  
23 925 on the 2016 Fortune 1000 list.

24 Actually, now it's among the largest life  
25 insurers in North American. We could only

1 deal with their members and their families.

2 When it comes to stability, the  
3 Knight of Columbus is untouchable. For 41  
4 consecutive years, the Knights of Columbus  
5 has earned the highest possible ratings for  
6 financial strength A++ by A in best. There  
7 was no more highly rated life insurer in  
8 North America.

9 And when it comes to our standard,  
10 the Knights of Columbus is committed to be  
11 being one of the most ethical companies in  
12 the business. And that's not just a wish,  
13 that is a duty. We owe it our founder. We  
14 owe it to the faith that we represent. And  
15 we owed it to you, our members. It's not  
16 just the duty either, it's realty.

17 This March, the Knights of Columbus  
18 was named one of the world's most ethical  
19 companies by ethisphere institute. Among  
20 the 2016, the Knights was only one of two  
21 insurers that got that honor. It is a great  
22 honor. And one that we intend to keep  
23 living up to.

24 So, as we gather here this weekend  
25 to celebrate your tremendous achievements in

1 the past fraternal year, what does this all  
2 mean for us? What does it all mean for our  
3 members? To me it means as a proud member  
4 of the Knights of Columbus, you can rest  
5 assured knowing your most valuable fraternal  
6 benefit, the insurance program, is here for  
7 you and your family when you may need it  
8 most.

9 There will be a time in all of our  
10 lives, if it hasn't come already, when you  
11 will be looking for life insurance to  
12 protect your family or retirement annuities  
13 for secure retirement or long-term care  
14 insurance to make sure you're taken care and  
15 a nursing home doesn't get all your assets  
16 or disability income insurance to secure a  
17 hard-earned paycheck if you're unable to  
18 work because of an unforeseen disability.

19 I hope you'll take the time to meet  
20 with us because we have spectacular products  
21 that will help you reach your goals. I hope  
22 you'll take the time to meet with us because  
23 we have size, stability and a standard you  
24 can rely on and believe in. I hope that  
25 you'll take the time to meet with us,

1           because you want the added comfort of  
2           knowing that your premium dollars aren't  
3           going for some cute advertising campaign or  
4           some golden parachutes but to the community  
5           and to the church.

6                        But most of all I hope you'll take  
7           the time it meet with us because you, are  
8           Brother Knights, and protecting Brother  
9           Knights is what we do. It's what our  
10          mission is. And we are Knights just as you  
11          are.

12                      With that being said, I think it's  
13          important that we talk about how important  
14          you are to the Order. And that little bit  
15          of how important we are to the Order.  
16          Because our fraternal leaders here, you  
17          people at the front desk, Charlie as the  
18          leader, you and the fraternal leaders are  
19          nucleus of the Knights of Columbus.

20                      Your direct leadership from up at  
21          this level down to you council levels, helps  
22          accomplish all the Knights of Columbus'  
23          charitable works every year on the state  
24          level and also the membership growth. In my  
25          opinion, of course, Charlie was always a

1 membership guy, you know, we are doing a  
2 fantastic job. He's doing a fantastic job  
3 with his team in that area.

4 So I want to thank you for the  
5 sacrifice of your time, your efforts, and  
6 your commitment to the Order. Secondly, the  
7 agency department is important also. We  
8 carry on the duties of what the Knights of  
9 Columbus was started for. One hundred and  
10 thirty-five years ago, Father McGivney  
11 started the Knights of Columbus in St.  
12 Mary's Parish in New Haven, Connecticut.

13 And why was it started? Many of you  
14 probably know. It was taught to you in your  
15 first degree, but why it was started is  
16 written in the original charter. And of the  
17 words are, to render financial aids to its  
18 member and the beneficiaries of its members.

19 And it's grown to what it is today a  
20 multi-billion dollar organization with 105  
21 billion dollars of insurance to protect our  
22 family's and 23 billion dollars in assets.

23 And, Brothers, we don't sell  
24 insurance like you might think in the 60's,  
25 70's or 80's mentality. We help our members



1 buy our products. We help our members  
2 purchase our products. Based on how our  
3 products can make their current situation  
4 better. We develop a plan for our members  
5 and their families. We create dollars that  
6 weren't there before. We maximize current  
7 dollars that they may have. And we protect  
8 dollars when they're passed down to the  
9 heirs.

10 As far as creating dollars, where  
11 else can you spend 30 minutes to 60 minutes  
12 with your field agent, go through some  
13 consulting a few signatures on the check and  
14 you're worth six figures or seven figures  
15 more than we were before the gentleman  
16 walked in the door? Nowhere. As far as  
17 maximizing your money, we consult with our  
18 members and reposition a lot of money that  
19 the member has invested elsewhere into the  
20 Knights of Columbus for a better return and  
21 many better benefits than where the money  
22 lays at the present time.

23 And, thirdly, for protecting our  
24 members' money or our retired members or  
25 almost to be retired members, if a member

1 and wife pass their assets to their children  
2 or any heirs, even children, it comes with a  
3 cost. It's not free. It's called  
4 inheritance taxes and it's called federal  
5 income tax. All qualified federal money  
6 IRA's, 401(k)s, that are passed to the  
7 grandchildren and children, they're going to  
8 get whacked a good percentage before the  
9 rightful heir gets the correct amount of  
10 money. We can help in keeping more money  
11 with the family and less money to the  
12 government.

13 Because we have a saying, if a  
14 member doesn't have a plan, they're on the  
15 government plan. And that's the most  
16 expensive plan.

17 We are important to our members  
18 financial wellbeing. We get the call when a  
19 Brother Knight passes away first. The  
20 lawyer, although all very knowledgeable and  
21 professional positions, the accountant, the  
22 lawyer, the banker, does not the get the  
23 first call. The first call comes to us.

24 And quite, frankly, fairly so  
25 because that's the reason the Knights of

1 Columbus was founded. I never met about a  
2 widow or widower or surviving children of a  
3 deceased member to handle a claim and when  
4 the money comes, nobody has ever said,  
5 please take some back. This is too much.

6 But on the other hand, I've had met  
7 with people, some survivor, who said, Jeez,  
8 is that all? Or I wish he had more. So  
9 it's important to keep in mind, yes, Brother  
10 we are both important. Both in the past  
11 success that we've had and in the future  
12 success yet to come. And I know we both  
13 have challenges that we have to address.

14 Their are councils out there in the  
15 State that currently do not have an agent.  
16 And that's not fair. It is not fair to the  
17 member. It's not fair to the Order. And  
18 we're working on that. And we want to solve  
19 that problem as soon as possible that, I can  
20 guarantee you. I also know that some  
21 councils, you know it too, are stagnant or  
22 inactive, maybe have two or three guys at a  
23 meeting and really don't do much.

24 So I do know that there's not a  
25 field agent or general agent in this room or

1 in this State that would not assist any  
2 council officers with anything they need to  
3 reactivate a council or deal with membership  
4 growth. That's what we are here for. We  
5 can help and we want to help.

6 I've already had the discussion a  
7 while ago with Charlie with this and we're  
8 open to reactivating councils. Just point  
9 us in the right direction. Give us a call  
10 and let us in on it. And we'll do whatever  
11 we can to help. But for these reasons, we  
12 must continue to work together. As I just  
13 said, we can help and we surely want to  
14 help.

15 After all, what good are we as  
16 Catholic gentleman and Brother Knights, if  
17 we are not constantly working together to  
18 improve and grow our Order. That's the  
19 reason we're all here today. Back in March,  
20 I had the privilege, I should say, to go to  
21 Mexico City with a number of my peers around  
22 the Country and Canada. And the primary  
23 purpose of the trip was a visit to our  
24 shrine of Our Lady of Guadeloupe. And our  
25 chaperone -- clergy chaperone, I guess, if

1           you want to call it for the week was a  
2           monsignor named Eduardo Chavez, who was the  
3           cofounder and rector of the institute for  
4           Guadeloupe studies. Basically, he's ease  
5           the expert on Our Lady of Guadeloupe and the  
6           shrine and everything like that.

7                     And he was our priest for our time  
8           that we spent there. And I have to tell  
9           you, I have never seen a human being with as  
10          much passion and enthusiasm in my life.  
11          When he would speak, he would loud. He  
12          would forcefully. His hands would be going.  
13          His arms would be going. He'd go up. He'd  
14          go down. And he spoke to us at dinner one  
15          night and telling us about how he joined the  
16          Knights of Columbus about ten years ago, not  
17          that long.

18                    And what he liked about the Knights  
19          of Columbus and how much the Knight of  
20          Columbus meant to him and so on and so  
21          forth. And towards the end of the talk, his  
22          voice went down and he got real serious  
23          about how he felt about the Knights of  
24          Columbus. And he paused and then he said,  
25          this is him talking now, that the Knights of

1 Columbus truly me is the right hand of God.

2 And what they stand for and in what  
3 we do. I kind of liked it. It made sense.  
4 So if that's the case, that the Knights of  
5 Columbus is the right hand of God, what  
6 we're doing here today what you are here for  
7 that would make you all of our fraternal  
8 leaders, the right hand of the Knights of  
9 Columbus. That's how important you are.

10 So my Brother Knights, I  
11 congratulate you. And I commend you on your  
12 efforts and all our fraternal leaders whose  
13 team work makes it possible for the agency  
14 department to the achieve the records that  
15 we do every year. Thank you very much.  
16 Vivat Jesus.

17 And speaking of Jack Mitchell, he  
18 has to come up here to present the award for  
19 his wonderful agent who achieved the top  
20 honors in the state of the field agent of  
21 the year in Pennsylvania.

22 JACK MITCHELL: John Deacon has been  
23 an agent with the Knights of Columbus for  
24 four years. And he serves members in the  
25 York County area. John has achieved



1 tell you will guys my son graduated from  
2 college and he was on what I thought was a  
3 five-year plan, I think it was longer. It  
4 seemed like he never was going to graduate.  
5 But he accumulated a little bit of wealth  
6 and he said to me, where should I invest my  
7 money? And I said, I have some ideas. But  
8 before you do anything, I want you talk to  
9 talk to John Deacon. Okay.

10 It gives me great pleasure today to  
11 present this award to John Deacon, field  
12 agent of the year 2016. John, would you  
13 please come forward and accept the award?

14 JOHN DEACON: Thanks so much. What  
15 a pleasure and honor to be here. It's been  
16 quite a ride. I couldn't ask for a better  
17 general agent, mentor and friend than Jack  
18 Mitchell. He's been a true leader with  
19 guidance, love and sometimes a firm foot.

20 I have other agents that's from our  
21 agency and they help me grow and give me a  
22 leg up when, you know, I went through  
23 struggles and stuff. So Jack created this  
24 wonderful atmosphere and culture within the  
25 Mitchell Agency that allowed all of us to



1 thrive and grow and learn from each other.  
2 And we truly banded together as brothers as  
3 we are in this room within that room. And  
4 as Jack and Jim Kearney's agency gelled, we  
5 were able to, you know, share different  
6 ideas and thoughts and stuff within the  
7 agencies.

8 But it's a pleasure to be here. And  
9 I'm honored and humbled. And I really hope  
10 you guys enjoy the convention. Thank you so  
11 much and God Bless.

12 STATE DEPUTY: Congratulations. All  
13 the agents, please stand up. (Applause).  
14 Stay there for one minute. Just one minute.  
15 You Grand Knights and your District  
16 Deputies, you say you don't see an agent in  
17 your area, there they are, every one of  
18 them.

19 If you have any questions, now is  
20 the time to ask. Thank you, Brothers. At  
21 this time we're going to hear from the Chief  
22 Squire. So I'm going to have to recess for  
23 the Chief Squire because he was suppose to  
24 have taken his degree. He's 18. He's a  
25 working boy. He's getting ready to go to

1 college. And if I had the DVD, I would have  
2 gave it to him today.

3 But at this time we are going to  
4 recess and we are going to have the chief,  
5 Mike, the director of the Squires, Mike  
6 Yubeck, Mr. Y as they call him, escort him  
7 in.

8 Is there any councilors from the  
9 Squires in the room? Will you please escort  
10 the Chief Squire in?

11 Please rise and greet our Chief  
12 Squire for the State of Pennsylvania, Nick  
13 Patrina.

14 MIKE YUBECK: I figured somebody  
15 should do that. Reverend Fathers, Worthy  
16 State Deputy, Worthy Officers, Worthy  
17 Supreme Advocate, Worthy Vice Supreme  
18 Master, Worthy Past State Deputies that are  
19 present, My Brothers all, it's my great  
20 privilege and honor to introduce our State's  
21 Chief Squire.

22 This morning we are heard about  
23 leadership from our Supreme Advocate. Two  
24 things entered my mind. One of them was the  
25 fact that that's one of the things that

1           these men that walk in before me tried to  
2           instill in every one of our squires, and  
3           that's the leadership quality. And it's one  
4           of our most important goals because it's not  
5           just leadership it's leadership based on our  
6           faith and our moral commitment. So it's  
7           extremely important that we do that.

8                         And then the second thing that hit  
9           my mind was just think how much better  
10          Charlie would have been had he been a  
11          squire. Now I think he's great. I'm just  
12          saying there's a just a little bit more.  
13          Now a little bit more about Nick.

14                        Nick is a member of the national  
15          honor society. He's also an honor roll  
16          student at his high school. And you  
17          probably wonder why he's not going to get to  
18          be here with us today and but as our Worthy  
19          State Deputy mentioned, Nick has almost a  
20          full-time job. He works after school every  
21          day, after that he does his homework and  
22          then goes to sleep then he gets up and he  
23          goes back to school. He works at Tractor  
24          Supply on the weekends. And he's doing this  
25          to be able to afford to go to college where

1 he wants to become an environmental  
2 engineer.

3 So we're real proud of him. And  
4 before all of you think that's all Nick does  
5 is go to school and work and do squirely  
6 things. He's also an avid hunter and  
7 fisher. No, he isn't a golfer, but to be  
8 honest no one is perfect.

9 My Brothers All, our State Chief  
10 Squire Nick Patrina.

11 NICK PATRINA: All right. Thank  
12 you, Mr. Y. I'll work on the golfing thing.  
13 I'll need some pointers. I've never done it  
14 before. I got to say before I came in here  
15 was a little nervous until we had -- I came  
16 to the orange room and had dinner -- or  
17 lunch with the State Deputy and I realized  
18 as all of the older gentleman rushed to the  
19 food and swarmed, you're all just basically  
20 older versions of me. So that made me feel  
21 better.

22 I'd like to thank all of you  
23 esteemed Knights for inviting me to come and  
24 talk your ears off for a little while. It's  
25 an honor to be here and get to share with

1           you a little bit about myself and what the  
2           squires have been doing this year.

3                     It is very nice to see so many  
4           knights here, especially considering the  
5           alternative would you all lounging at pool  
6           right now. So I'll start out about talking  
7           a little bit about myself and my squire's  
8           career. I've been a squire for about eight  
9           years now.

10                    I joined just as soon as I turned  
11           10. I wish I could say it was because I  
12           wanted to enhance my relationship with God  
13           and do lots of community work, but as many  
14           of you know, that's not how a ten-year old's  
15           brain works. I joined because my older  
16           brother had been a squire and I saw all the  
17           fun he had been having when he'd go off to  
18           baseball games and laser tag and bowling.

19                    Some of you have may remember  
20           Robert, about two years ago he was the state  
21           chief squire and he gave this speech. I  
22           know what you're all thinking, I'm  
23           definitely your typical little brother.  
24           And, yes, I am. I copied everything Robert  
25           did when I was growing up, including the

1           squires.

2                     For all the younger brother in the  
3 crowd you'll understand how I feel. And for  
4 all the older brothers, I apologize on  
5 behalf of all of us younger brothers. But  
6 to be honest without Robert I probably would  
7 not be standing up here today. So thanks,  
8 Robert. He couldn't make it today but I  
9 know he's here in spirit.

10                    If you remember Robert, he's the  
11 taller gentleman with the long bun in his  
12 hair. Both literally and figuratively I am  
13 filling to very, very big shoes. As I  
14 looked up to him and made my way in my local  
15 circle to the position of bursar, I started  
16 to understand a little more of what it meant  
17 to be a squire.

18                    I became more involved with  
19 community and the church. I realized it  
20 wasn't all going to baseball games and  
21 having fun. It's a very faith-centered  
22 organization and allowed me to become a  
23 better Catholic, and to be truthful, a  
24 better person. As I grew in my local  
25 circle, I again saw Robert go away to the

1 state circle and again, fulfilled my duties  
2 as a little brother and I followed him.  
3 This time the whole way to Pittsburgh for my  
4 first state squire's convention.

5 That convention really got me hooked  
6 on the state squire circle regardless of the  
7 luxurious five star gym floor we slept on.  
8 I saw that the squires was a much larger  
9 than I anticipated and boys from all over  
10 the state was doing God's will with service  
11 to their church and community. This opened  
12 my eyes to a whole new possibility of  
13 service throughout the State and a way to  
14 meet fellow squires.

15 The state squires provided me with  
16 friendships I never would have had if I  
17 hadn't joined the squires. So I continued  
18 my journey through the state circle as I saw  
19 the good it does. I started working my way  
20 up through the rankings. Through the years,  
21 I held nearly every position you can have at  
22 the state level. This included the marshal,  
23 the century, auditor, bursar, notary, deputy  
24 chief and chief squire. A pay raise was not  
25 what you'd expect.

1                   Of course, I joke because I've seen  
2                   the finances and the amount we spend on food  
3                   is pay enough for everybody. If nothing  
4                   else keeps you coming back Mr. Micawichak's  
5                   cooking will do the trick. Now, as I made  
6                   my way to chief squire, I continued to climb  
7                   the ranks in my own circle, of course, only  
8                   achieving the position of chief after Robert  
9                   aged out.

10                   We continued to have our yearly  
11                   Lenten fish dinner dessert sale, which is  
12                   usually our circle usually contributed to  
13                   the state's yearly donation to the St. Jude  
14                   Children Hospital. The donation to St.  
15                   Jude's Children Hospital is extremely  
16                   important in my eyes and I continued this  
17                   past year.

18                   We are as of right now over all the  
19                   years we've collected over \$17,000 for St.  
20                   Jude's and I'm very proud of that. And I  
21                   hope that the next state chief squire will  
22                   continue to contribute to this fund. I  
23                   think it's a really great cause. As some of  
24                   you may know it has been a difficult past  
25                   year for the squires as we become a bit of a



1 point of controversy not because of golf.

2 It was -- we have been somewhat of a  
3 liability. But that's why I'm here today.  
4 I'm trying to tell you how important the  
5 squires are to me and how what important  
6 work we do. Squire circles have ceased to  
7 be informed and it has been difficult for us  
8 to expand. Currently, we are just trying to  
9 grow the current active circles because  
10 there are still hundreds of young men, not  
11 only in Pennsylvania but, throughout the  
12 country and even globally who want to serve  
13 God in a unique way that provides them a way  
14 to make new friends, enhance their faith and  
15 volunteer to their community.

16 The squires organization offers a  
17 way to turn boys into responsible  
18 faith-based young men. It is a path to  
19 turning boys who just want to enjoy fun  
20 activities to men who want to provide for  
21 their church and maybe even become the state  
22 chief squire of Pennsylvania and give a  
23 speech to a room full of knights who we rely  
24 on to keep us going. Not to mention I know  
25 how much all of you enjoy getting your

1 recruitment numbers up. And majority of  
2 squires become knights and continue their  
3 service to the church and God through the  
4 knights.

5 I know that the more opportunity we  
6 have to grow as squires, the more boys we  
7 will be able to convert into responsible all  
8 around good men and not to mention the more  
9 Knights we can recruit. I know without the  
10 squires, I would missed out on some of the  
11 best experiences of my life. It truly gave  
12 me the best way possible, in my opinion, to  
13 serve God and my community.

14 I hope that the Knights continue to  
15 support the squires as it is a source of  
16 opportunity that not many programs can give.  
17 At our yearly convention in March we had  
18 some of the Knights here today attend our  
19 meeting. And I truly think they saw how  
20 important and effective the squires program  
21 is.

22 At our convention we had each circle  
23 give a report on their activities for the  
24 year. It was very nice to see the active  
25 circles showing what they've done throughout

1 the past year. There was a lot of service  
2 hours, a lot of community work and plenty of  
3 service to God. The good they've done  
4 showed the potential of the squires, and in  
5 my mind and hopefully all of yours, far  
6 outweighs any doubts there maybe as to  
7 whether or not to support the squires.

8 We have been doing good deeds for  
9 years and hope that the squires program will  
10 continue for many more years. There's no  
11 limit to what can be accomplished when you  
12 have a strong group of people with a  
13 powerful belief in God and strive to do His  
14 will.

15 Squires have given me one of the  
16 best learning opportunities that I could  
17 have gotten from -- that I couldn't have  
18 gotten from classroom or computer site. It  
19 made me more responsible, prepared me for  
20 the real world, strengthened my relationship  
21 with God and made me a better Catholic. I  
22 know without the squires there would be  
23 hundreds of boys in Pennsylvania and  
24 thousands throughout the world who would be  
25 let down and never shown a potential in the

1 church that I believe only the squires can  
2 unlock and reveal to a young man his full  
3 potential.

4 I generally wish every Knight would  
5 feel as strongly about the squires as I do  
6 and continue to show support, especially  
7 during these difficulty times so we can push  
8 through and come back better than ever. I  
9 know that the squires are willing to fight  
10 for of this cause, as there's no other  
11 organization like the squires. And there  
12 would be boys lost without this program.

13 Being a squire has been one of the  
14 best experiences of my life and I wouldn't  
15 trade it for anything. I know I wouldn't be  
16 the person I am today without the squires,  
17 so I hope you all see the potential of the  
18 squires and all the good we have done and  
19 will do in the future. I would like to give  
20 a special thanks to all of my councilors  
21 throughout the years and a special thanks to  
22 Mr. Yubeck for putting up with me for so  
23 long.

24 I'd like to thank all of you Knights  
25 for allowing me to come and speak to you on

1           behalf of the squires of Pennsylvania thank  
2           you for this tremendous opportunity. And,  
3           finally, thank you to all Knights who have  
4           supported the squires.

5                     STATE DEPUTY: Nick, we're going to  
6           give you a challenge.

7                     NICK PATRINA: What's that?

8                     STATE DEPUTY: You live the squires?

9                     NICK PATRINA: Yes, I do.

10                    STATE DEPUTY: How about the  
11           Knights?

12                    NICK PATRINA: I think they're  
13           pretty great.

14                    STATE DEPUTY: Have to take your  
15           degree. Now, here's the challenge I'm going  
16           to give you. You like speaking from here?

17                    NICK PATRINA: I guess so.

18                    STATE DEPUTY: Well, work on it.  
19           you can be next. All right.

20                    NICK PATRINA: Sounds good to me.

21                    STATE DEPUTY: We're looking for  
22           youths, are we not? You can be next. He's  
23           already got one. I'm not worried we took  
24           care of this at the anniversary. Luis, you  
25           were suppose to put him in. Thank you.

1                   He's going to make a good Knight  
2                   already.

3                   Brothers, we will now open this  
4                   meeting again. At this time I would like to  
5                   call back to the podium our State Secretary  
6                   Paul Sharum for his credentials committee  
7                   report. Please rise and greet our State  
8                   Secretary.

9                   STATE SECRETARY: Worthy State  
10                  Deputy, Worthy Father, Worthy Supreme  
11                  Officer, my Brothers all, this is the final  
12                  credential report for the 119th convention.  
13                  We have one supreme officer, we have five  
14                  state officers, one state chaplain, one  
15                  immediate past state deputy, one  
16                  administrative assistant, one supreme  
17                  representative. We have seven past state  
18                  deputies, two former state chaplains, 16  
19                  former state officers, one vice supreme  
20                  master, three masters of the fourth degree,  
21                  four former masters, nine faithful  
22                  navigators, 53 past faithful navigators, six  
23                  state directors, 31 state chairmen, five  
24                  chapter presidents, 53 district deputies,  
25                  one Hispanic strike team, 46 former district

1           deputies, 183 council delegates -- voting  
2           delegates, 28 voting alternate delegates, 30  
3           nonvoting alternate delegates, six general  
4           agents plus one retired, 14 field agents,  
5           seven education foundation, one state chief  
6           squire who was just here, 15 third degree  
7           guests.

8                         We have 138 councils represented.  
9           And again, it's a total of it's 211 voting  
10          members or alternate voting members. I want  
11          to thank my team that helped me out. I'll  
12          tell you what, I didn't have a lot of  
13          problems. They took care of it for me. So  
14          I really want to thank them for all the work  
15          that they did.

16                        Those of you that went through the  
17          line, you saw how good they were doing.  
18          They took care of you have guys and I really  
19          want to thank them for everything they did.  
20          Vivat Jesus.

21                        STATE DEPUTY: Thank you, Brother  
22          Paul. There is still some envelopes to be  
23          picked up at the registration. Council  
24          19786, 9832, Como; Connors, 7273; Doherty,  
25          1192; Gatkowski, 6440; Higgins, 4824; Kasan,

1 14990; McHugh, 4545; and McNally.

2 Okay. At this time I would like to  
3 call our state advocate for the resolution  
4 committee report.

5 I want to take this time and remind  
6 everyone what has been published on the  
7 cover letter of your resolution packet in  
8 accordance with the established practice  
9 when a resolution is submitted by the state  
10 advocate, on behalf of the committee, there  
11 will be a brief pause. And if no objection  
12 is made, at the drop of gavel the voting  
13 delegates agree to follow the recommendation  
14 of resolution committee.

15 Also, any member having the  
16 privilege of the floor as defined in Article  
17 III, Section 3B of the State Bylaws who wish  
18 to be speak will be recognized provided he's  
19 at a convention floor mic prior to the gavel  
20 being dropped.

21 The Chair reserves the right to  
22 limit the number of speakers to three either  
23 for or against the resolution. Each speaker  
24 will be limited to two minutes each time at  
25 the microphone. If a vote is called for by



1 the delegates, a show of voting cards will  
2 follow. And once the voting is completed,  
3 the results are final.

4 Please rise and greet our state  
5 advocate.

6 STATE ADVOCATE: Before I begin my  
7 report, I would ask the resolution's  
8 committee to come and join me. They were  
9 Ralph Trofino, former state advocate, Ken  
10 Grugel, former state advocate, George  
11 Halkovich and Larry Barkowski. If you  
12 please join me, gentleman. I'm not taking  
13 this shot alone. You're coming up with here  
14 with me.

15 Actually, I'm kidding. It was very  
16 easier year for resolutions. Does everybody  
17 have their resolutions or at least have seen  
18 them? If not, we do have some. There is  
19 some copies left. They're all pretty  
20 straightforward so there's not going too  
21 much controversy.

22 To begin with, council resolution --  
23 well there was only one. It was from  
24 Council 590, that resolution has been  
25 withdrawn. And I invite as he comes up,

1 past state deputy, Ron Cubbage, give the  
2 reason why he withdrew the resolution.

3 RON CUBBAGE: Thank you, Worthy  
4 State Advocate. I know in the part of the  
5 state in our caucus meeting this past on the  
6 caucus area and the let's hope that the  
7 state would support this.

8 But after I received a phone call  
9 from New Haven and they explained to me why  
10 it would be in our best interest to withdraw  
11 this resolution. What the resolution states  
12 is it's \$9 rebate back to the councils for  
13 inactive insurance members. My particular  
14 council, I have almost 200 members and I  
15 have to pay that \$2 for education -- not the  
16 education, the pro-life -- culture of life  
17 that they assessed us for a couple years  
18 ago, which means we should get \$11 back for  
19 our insurance members and active members.

20 The thing is, it hasn't been raised  
21 for -- I don't know. I never seen it. I've  
22 been in the Knights for almost 30 years and  
23 I haven't seen a raise in it. So what  
24 happens is I was told that that money comes  
25 of the premiums and the insurance supply.

1           That's how they reimburse the members of  
2           these councils. So each state has it's own  
3           regulations. And it's kind of a nightmare  
4           for supreme to even try to change anything  
5           when it comes to the insurance premiums  
6           given back to the councils.

7                        So my intent was to get their  
8           intention -- their attention and the person  
9           that called me said you definitely did that.  
10          So that's the reason why we're withdrawing  
11          it. I will pursue it through the channels.  
12          I've been advised how to go about this  
13          pursuing this further with the insurance  
14          department. And as I do this, I get more  
15          educated on how we can, if in fact, we can  
16          get this another \$2 or get this increase,  
17          I'll be more than glad to adjust the Body at  
18          that time with the information I receive.  
19          Thank you very much, Worthy State Advocate.

20                       STATE ADVOCATE: Thank you, Ron, for  
21          explaining that to us. On to the state  
22          officer's resolutions, resolution number  
23          one, now therefore be resolved and honorary  
24          be paid to the following individuals for  
25          participation in the convention mass and the

1 memorial mass celebrated at the 119  
2 convention. I won't read all the totals.  
3 The committee voted to accept.

4 Resolution number two, support of  
5 the Holy Father. This is very long so I'm  
6 not going to read the whole thing in the  
7 interest of time, but whereas Jorge Mario  
8 Bargolio, was born in Argentina on December  
9 17th, 1936, entered the society of Jesus as  
10 a Novice in 1958 and it goes onto describe  
11 his whole life. So we are going to go to  
12 the back. Further be it resolved that the  
13 Knights of Columbus will never waive in its  
14 commit to defend the Holy Father and assist  
15 him in his pastoral mission of bringing the  
16 good news of Jesus Christ to the world.  
17 Committee to voted to accept.

18 State Officers resolution number  
19 three, support of our supreme Knight, Carl  
20 Anderson. Whereas the Knights of Columbus  
21 promotes the principals of charity, unity,  
22 fraternity of patriotism. It is a catholic  
23 family fraternal organization. Let me go  
24 down to the bottom. Therefore be resolved  
25 that we pledge our strong support and

1           loyalty take to our supreme Knight, Carl  
2           Anderson and commend him for his outstanding  
3           leadership, dedication to our church, the  
4           sanctity of life and his true concern for  
5           the Order. And further be resolved that we  
6           express our strong support to the supreme  
7           officers, the board of directors and their  
8           staff for their tireless efforts for the  
9           Order and the church and be resolved that we  
10          offer prayers, support and sincere  
11          appreciation to our supreme chaplain, the  
12          Most Reverend William E. Lori, the  
13          Archbishop of Baltimore for spiritual  
14          guidance throughout the fraternal year.  
15          Committee recommends accept.

16                         State officers resolution number  
17                         four, for the institution of marriage.  
18                         Whereas marriage is a natural institution  
19                         based on ancient human values that have  
20                         evolved overtime into unique and deeply  
21                         rooted social, legal and religious  
22                         institution. And we are going to go to the  
23                         end, further be resolved that we join with  
24                         the bishops of the United States, Canada and  
25                         all these countries in where we are active

1 in their efforts to protection at the  
2 national, and local levels for the  
3 definition of marriage as the union of one  
4 man and one woman to the exclusion of all  
5 others. Committee votes we accept.

6 State officers resolution number  
7 five, in support of the culture of life,  
8 whereas the Knights of Columbus has a deep  
9 and historic commitment to oppose any  
10 governmental action or policy that promotes  
11 abortion, embryotic stem cell research,  
12 euthanasia, assisted suicide other offenses  
13 against life. And that we continue to speak  
14 to our elected representatives about the  
15 need to enact legislation to oppose these  
16 practices and to protect human life in all  
17 its stages.

18 Further be it resolved that we once  
19 again commit ourselves to praying the rosary  
20 frequently, to fasting and to doing penance  
21 in preparation for the evils perpetrated  
22 against the gift of life and that we seek  
23 the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
24 who herself said yes to life to intercede on  
25 our behalf to a culture of life. Committee

1 votes to the accept.

2 State officers resolution number  
3 six, defensive religious liberty, whereas  
4 the catholic church teaches that the right  
5 to religious freedom is based upon the  
6 apparent dignity of the human person, which  
7 is known through both reason and divine  
8 revelation. And now we just go to the end.  
9 Further be it resolved that will our  
10 struggle for religious freedom at this  
11 decisive moment in our history is not only  
12 for our sake but for the sake of our  
13 children, our grandchildren and all future  
14 generations so that they too may know a  
15 country that is one nation under God,  
16 indivisible with liberty and justice for  
17 all. Committee recommends accept.

18 And state council resolution number  
19 7, faithful citizenship, whereas the Knights  
20 of Columbus shares the churches conviction  
21 that our obligation to shape the morale  
22 character of society is a requirement of our  
23 faith and a basic part of the mission we  
24 have received from Jesus Christ. And to the  
25 end, further be resolved we will remember

1           our founding principals of charity, unity,  
2           fraternity and patriotism in all of our  
3           interactions with others, particularly  
4           during any election season so that we may  
5           conduct ourselves according to our Lords  
6           commandment that we love our neighbors and  
7           ourselves. For He said, this is how all  
8           will know that you are my disciples if you  
9           have love. Committee votes -- or committee  
10          recommends we accept.

11                   STATE DEPUTY: The immediate past  
12          state chief squires, Steve Parter will be  
13          receiving his patriotic degree on June the  
14          4th.

15                   Next order of business is the  
16          budget. A copy was passed out on Friday  
17          night. And I'd like to call to the podium  
18          our state treasurer, Jeffery Blaze. Please  
19          rise.

20                   JEFFREY BLAZE: Does everyone here  
21          have a copy of the budget and get a chance  
22          to take a look at it? I've got a few extra  
23          copies up front here if anybody needs one.  
24          At this time I would like to ask for a  
25          little bit of help, so I've asked one of my



1           mentors, state finance chairman, Jim  
2           McCarthy, to come up, please. We have an  
3           amendment to the budget. We'll get this  
4           budget out and then we'll continue. The  
5           amended number on this particular budget  
6           under the income is going to be a \$20,000  
7           increase from the football sweeps. That  
8           again is going to increase our proposed  
9           budget income for next year.

10                         So instead of become 222,800, it's  
11           going to be 242,800. I'll offset that  
12           underneath the expenses. We have taken that  
13           20,000 and we have put that under the new  
14           state convention budget for next year. So  
15           instead of being 74,920 it's going to be  
16           94,920, which balances the budget with our  
17           income and our expenses for next year.

18                         Under the top of the page under  
19           income where it says football sweeps, not  
20           for regional. It's going to say football  
21           sweeps, it's going to be a \$20,000 addition  
22           there. So we're adding a line item.  
23           Proposed budget 2017/2018, we are going to  
24           add a line item under income from football  
25           sweeps. Instead of football sweeps for

1 regional support, it's just going to be to  
2 be football sweeps, \$20,000. From the  
3 sweeps.

4 And then under expenses, we've  
5 changed the total of the same column for the  
6 proposed budget for next year for the state  
7 convention it's going to be 94,920 instead  
8 of the 74,920. Very last call, proposed  
9 budget. And because there is an amendment,  
10 I asked Jim to explain under or bylaws why  
11 we have to do this.

12 JIM MCCARTHY: We are required to  
13 show all sources of income that we know are  
14 coming in. This year we know this money is  
15 coming in. So after they finish the thing,  
16 the Board met again this morning with Andy  
17 and we said, well, the proper thing is that  
18 we don't wait and see that the state deputy  
19 is going to need that money because then we  
20 got to go into the bylaws and it's Article  
21 IV, Section III, operating budget and it  
22 says, proposed budget shall not have any  
23 more income or any more expenses unless it's  
24 an extraordinary expense and it has to be  
25 explained.



1 favor?

2 AUDIENCE: Aye.

3 STATE DEPUTY: Ayes have it.

4 I have one final thing I would like  
5 to mention at this convention, we're coming  
6 to the close. It's great. But I do have a  
7 gentleman that's in this convention room  
8 that I must recognize and his name is George  
9 Snyder, Sr. Would you please stand up,  
10 George?

11 The reason I recognize George is  
12 because he signed me up in the Knights of  
13 Columbus. He was my district deputy who put  
14 in to council. He followed me from every  
15 degree. He came to Erie to see me walk down  
16 the aisle and become the state deputy. He's  
17 followed me all over since I've been in the  
18 Knights of Columbus and he's 88 years old.  
19 I wore him out.

20 But it's an honor. And this is why  
21 I say it's an honor when you can get a  
22 proposer who follows you to everything. And  
23 he asked me today when I was sitting with  
24 him there for a little while, he said, did  
25 you ever believe you would be the state

1 deputy? I said, no.

2 I said if I did, I don't know if  
3 I'll be a knight. But I'm glad he signed me  
4 up. He strengthened me. He's a very good  
5 Knight of Columbus. And every one of his  
6 boys is a Knight of Columbus -- they're Sir  
7 Knights, I should say. And even his  
8 son-in-law. And I think you got a grandson  
9 now too, right? Not yet. That's his other  
10 boy over here. That's the Junior.

11 I just want to say to you George, in  
12 front of all these men, you are a true  
13 inspiration of a Knight of Columbus that  
14 follows the rule of signing up a member and  
15 following him through the Order. Thank you  
16 so much for making me what I am today.

17 Now, the east wants a little meeting  
18 after of this meeting. They'll be meeting  
19 over in the corner on my left. District  
20 deputies? Just the district deputies from  
21 the east will be meeting in that corner on  
22 my left.

23 Now, doing great. It brings us to  
24 the closing business for today. I want to  
25 remind everyone that mass is at 5:00 in this

1 room and dinner is at 7:00 in Salon A,B,G  
2 and H. Everybody have that? A,B,G,H so  
3 that's twice the size of this room.

4 Now I ask Father Larry to lead us in  
5 the closing prayer.

6 CHAPLAIN SHERDEL: In the name of  
7 the Father and of the Son and of the Holy  
8 Spirit. Amen. We pray together in the  
9 words Jesus taught us. Our Father, who art  
10 in heaven, hallow be thy name. Thy kingdom  
11 come, thy will be done on earth as it is in  
12 heaven. Give us this day our, daily bread  
13 and forgive us or trespasses, as we forgive  
14 those who trespass against us. And lead us  
15 not into temptation but deliver us from  
16 evil. Amen.

17 May the blessing of the almighty  
18 God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
19 come down on you now and remain with you  
20 forever. Amen.

21 STATE DEPUTY: Meeting is now  
22 adjourned.

23  
24  
25